

Spalding Rural District Council

REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND THE
Sanitary Inspector
TO THE
Spalding Rural District
FOR THE
Year 1946

"Free Press" Co., Ltd., Spalding.

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Medical Officer of Health :

I. M. Cullum, M.D., B.S. (Lond), D.P.H., D.C.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Meat Inspector :

F. Luker, M.S.I.A., R.S.I. Insp. Meat & Other Foods.

Spalding Rural District Council,
Council Offices,
7, The Crescent,
Spalding.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Spalding Rural District Council

Gentlemen,—

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my annual report for the year 1946.

Generally speaking the health of the district has remained satisfactory during the year under review, although the infantile mortality rate was disappointingly high.

Some progress has been made with post-war housing schemes and 56 new houses were ready for occupation during the year.

I wish to express my thanks to the other officials and the members of the Council for their courtesy and consideration at all times.

I have the honour to be, Gentleman,
Your Obedient Servant,
I. M. CULLUM.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The area of the District is 87,758 acres.

The resident population is 17,780.

The average population figure given by the Registrar General for the calculation of death rates is 18,800.

The number of inhabited houses according to the rate books is distributed as follows :

Cowbit	...	...	...	...	...	160
Crowland	...	...	...	...	...	815
Deeping St. Nicholas	...	...	...	...	...	440
Donington	...	...	...	...	...	538
Gosberton	...	...	...	...	...	637
Moulton	...	...	...	...	...	724
Pinchbeck	...	...	...	...	...	985
Quadring	...	...	...	...	...	278
Surfleet	...	...	...	...	...	295
Weston	...	...	...	...	...	344

Total 5,216

The Rateable Value is £45,757 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £172.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	M.	F.
Live Births (Legitimate) ...	171	151
(Illegitimate) ...	18	18
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Total Live Births	189	169
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The Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population is 19.00.		

	M.	F.
Still Births (Legitimate) ...	6	1
(Illegitimate) ...	—	2
	---	---
Total Still Births	6	3
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The rate of Still Births per 1,000 (live and still) births is 24.52.

Deaths.—Total deaths during 1946—182 (Males 106, Females 76).

The death rate per 1,000 estimated population is 9.68.

The above figure has been corrected for transfers in and out of the district but has not been adjusted to make allowance for the age and sex composition of the population.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
Other puerperal causes	1

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age.

	M.	F.
Legitimate	13	1
Illegitimate	1	—
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Total	14	1
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Death rates of infants under 1 year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	41.90
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births	43.48
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	27.77
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—39 (Males 20; Females 19).	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)—Nil.	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—Nil.	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (children under 2 years—1 (Males 1; Females Nil).	

COMMENTS ON THE VITAL STATISTICS.

The vital statistics as a whole remain fairly constant, but the infantile mortality rate, while just below that for the country as a whole, shows a considerable increase over 1945.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE SPALDING RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1946.

Cause of Death.							M.	F.	Total
1	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3	Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
8	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
9	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
10	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
11	Acute Polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
12	Acute infantile encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and aesophagus (M)	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
	uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
15	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	...	12	11	23
17	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
18	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	12	11	23
19	Heart diseases	...	...	...	...	...	17	8	25
20	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	6
21	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	6	8	14
22	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
23	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	6
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
25	Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
26	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
27	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
28	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
29	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
30	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
31	Premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	7	1	8
32	Congenital malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	6
33	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
34	Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
35	Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
36	All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	12	17	29
All causes							106	76	182

HOUSING.

Nuisances.

46 complaints with regard to housing defects and water supplies were investigated during the year and letters sent to the persons responsible requesting abatement.

4 Statutory Notices were served.

The condition of the older houses in the district remains substantially unchanged. The Council erected 50 temporary pre-fabricated houses and 6 Swedish timber houses during the year and building operations were commenced on various sites in the district.

Work on the rural housing survey was further postponed owing to the imposition of additional duties on the Sanitary Inspector under the various "Control of Civil Building" orders issued during the year.

Civil Building Control.

During the year a total of 630 Civil Building Licences were issued. These comprised the following :—

Licences for new dwellings	25
Licences for work of conversion or adaptation resulting in additional housing accommodation	6
Maintenance Licences	21
Licences for repair and construction work of an agricultural or other non-housing nature	174
Licences for repair work to houses	404
	<hr/>
	630
	<hr/>

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

There has been no change in the source of water supply.

The villages are supplied with mains water derived from artesian bores at Donington, Pinchbeck, Deeping St. Nicholas, Deeping St. James and Quadring Fen. During peak consumption periods, the supply of water is inadequate, owing to the large quantities of water used for horticultural purposes in this intensely cultivated district.

The water is wholesome but the comparatively large amounts of iron present cause an unpleasant taste and the high degree of hardness renders it unsuitable for use in hot water systems.

Samples have been taken from the Council's bores and the water has been found satisfactory.

The results in each case were as follows :

Bacteria per m.1 at 37°C—none.

B. Coli present per 100 m.1—none.

The water has no plumbo-solvent action and there has been no evidence of contamination.

Particulars of the number of dwellinghouses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains are given below for the several parishes :—

Parish	Number of Dwellinghouses supplied from the Public Water Mains.	Approx. No. of Population served.
Cowbit	130	455
Moulton	481	1,683
Weston	245	857
Pinchbeck	833	2,915
Deeping St. Nicholas	322	1,127
Surfleet	212	742
Gosberton	480	1,680
Quadring	188	658
Donington	443	1,551
Crowland	644	2,254
	<hr/> 3,978 <hr/>	<hr/> 13,922 <hr/>

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

There has been no change in the services provided during the year.

Salvage collections have been maintained during the year and approximately £602 has been received from the sale of paper, rags, bagging, scrap iron, glass, bones, etc.

The large quantities of tins and other household refuse collected every week is proof of the service rendered and the need for properly organised scavenging.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Milk Sampling.

There are two Pasteurising Dairies in the district and samples of milk in course of delivery were taken at intervals throughout the year. The results were as follows :—

Dairy A.

Out of 20 samples tested one failed to satisfy the prescribed tests.

Dairy B.

Out of 25 samples tested eight failed to satisfy the prescribed tests.

Three other dealers are licensed by the Council to retail within the district milk pastuerised at dairies without the district.

COWKEEPERS AND MILK WHOLESALERS.

During the year applications for registration were received from six persons carrying on the trade of cowkeeper and wholesale purveyor of milk. In each case registration was granted. Inspections of registered premises have been made and liaison in this respect has been maintained with the Milk Advisory Officer, Holland War Agricultural Executive Committee. As a result of action taken by the Officers of this Council the Milk Marketing Board cancelled the contract of one unsatisfactory wholesaler.

MILK RETAILERS.

The Council decided to cancel the registration of one milk retailer owing to the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing at his premises.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year all animals slaughtered for food at the Central Slaughterhouse have been given routine inspections and animals showing any evidence of disease have been subject to a detailed examination. During the year 2,269 cattle, 5,834 sheep, 44 pigs and 419 calves were slaughtered and inspected.

The total weight of meat and offals condemned as unfit for human food during the year was approximately 35 tons 1 cwt. and this was disposed of for other purposes under the Ministry of Food Waste Utilisation Scheme. Among the meat and offals condemned were :—

Article Examined.	Disease or Condition Found.
38 Carcases of Beef and Offals	Generalised Tuberculosis.
26 Carcases of Beef and Offals	Emaciation and dropsy (Johnes Disease).
3 Carcases of Beef and Offals	Large malignant growth of abdominal cavity causing generalised dropsy.
2 Carcases of Beef and Offals	Jaundice.
1 Carcase of Beef and Offals	Generalised Actinomycosis.
2 Carcases of Beef and Offals	Extensive severe bruising and dropsy.
1 Cow Carcase and Offals	Milk Fever, badly bled moribund animal.
1 Cow Carcase and Offals	Septic Pericarditis and Pleurisy.
1 Cow Carcase and Offals	Septic Mastitis.
1 Cow Carcase and Offals	Badly bled, unwholesome carcase.
1 Heifer Carcase and Offals ...	Sapraemia.
4 Calf Carcases and Offals	Immaturity.
2 Calf Carcases and Offals	Generalised Dropsy.
2 Calf Carcases and Offals	Pyæmia.
2 Calf Carcases and Offals	Generalised Tuberculosis (Congenital).
30 Part Carcases of Beef	Tuberculosis.
21 Part Carcases of Beef	Bruising, dropsy, broken legs, localised abscesses, growths, etc.

Article Examined.	Disease or Condition Found.
2 Part Carcases of Beef	Septic Peritonitis.
1 Part Carcase of Beef and Offals	Commencing putrefaction.
1 Part Frozen Forequarter of Beef	Unwholesome; tainted with foul odour.
1,138 lbs Beef Trimmings	Bruised Flesh.
43 lbs. Beef Trimmings	Affected by maggots of the Warble Fly.
70 lbs. Beef Trimmings	Localised dropsy, tuberculosis, abscesses, etc.
4 lbs. Beef Trimmings	Actinomycosis.
112 Beasts Heads and Tongues ...	Tuberculosis.
45 Beasts Heads and Tongues ...	Actinomycosis.
1 Beasts Head and Tongue	Cancer of Throat.
9 Beasts Hearts	Tuberculosis.
5 Beasts Hearts	Pericarditis.
269 Beasts Lungs	Tuberculosis.
9 Beasts Lungs	Actinomycosis.
5 Beasts Lungs	Parasitic affection.
6 Beasts Lungs	Pneumonia.
4 Beasts Lungs	Echinococcus Cysts.
6 Beasts Lungs	Septic Abscesses.
20 Beasts Thick Skirts	Tuberculosis.
17 Beasts Thin Skirts and Trimmings	Pleurisy (due to abscesses, tuberculosis, etc.).
136 Beasts Livers	Distomatosis (Liver Flukes).
104 Beasts Livers	Septic Abscesses.
62 Beasts Livers	Tuberculosis.
24 Beasts Livers	Cavernous Angioma.
6 Beasts Livers	Cirrhosis.
4 Beasts Livers	Echinococcus Cysts.
2 Beasts Livers	Fatty Infiltration.
1 Beast Liver	Hepatitis.
1 Beast Liver	Pentastomum Larvae.
164 Part Beasts Livers	Distomatosis (Liver Flukes).
10 Part Beasts Livers	Septic Abscesses.
4 Part Beasts Livers	Necrosis.
9 Beasts Spleens	Tuberculosis.
14 Beasts Kidneys	Nephritis.
8 Beasts Kidneys	Tuberculosis.
9 Beasts Kidneys	Septic Abscesses.
2 Beasts Kidneys	Hydro-nephrosis.
5 Beasts Tripes	Peritonitis.
3 Beasts Tribes	Stale and putrefying.
14 Beasts Intestines & Mesentery	Tuberculosis.
2 Beasts Intestines & Mesentery	Peritonitis.
1 Beasts Intestines & Mesentery	Johnes Disease.
56 Cow Udders	Mastitis.
2 Cow Udders	Tuberculosis.
2 Calfs Livers	Cirrhosis.
2 Calfs Kidneys	Nephritis.
14 Pigs and Offals	Generalised Dropsy.
6 Pigs and Offals	Casualty animals slaughtered on farms; badly bled and unwholesome carcases.
9 Pigs and Offals	Acute Swine Erysipelas.
8 Pigs and Offals	Generalised Tuberculosis.
7 Pigs and Offals	Evidence of Swine Fever.
2 Pigs and Offals	Jaundice and Dropsy.
4 Small Store Pigs and Offals	Rickets with malnutrition.
1 Small Store Pig and Offals	Malignant Growths.
12 Part Pig Carcases	Broken legs, localised dropsy, localised abscesses, growths, etc.
1 Pigs Head, Spleen and Pluck	Tuberculosis.
4 Pigs Heads	Tuberculosis.

Article Examined.	Disease or Condition Found.
23 Pigs Feet and Hocks	Enlarged joints; fibrous flesh.
1 Pigs Skin and Trimmings	Animal killed on farm; unable to scald.
140 lbs. Pork Trimmings	Urticaria.
54 lbs. Pork Trimmings	Bruised flesh.
26 lbs. Pork Trimmings	Peritonitis.
11 Pigs Hearts	Pericarditis.
1 Pigs Heart	Endocarditis.
20 Pigs Lungs	Pneumonia.
9 Pigs Lungs	Pleurisy.
1 Pigs Lung	Tuberculosis.
4 Pigs Livers	Echinococcus Cysts.
2 Pigs Livers	Hepatitis.
12 Pigs Kidneys and Trimmings	Nephritis.
5 Pigs Kidneys	Cystic.
3 Pigs Plucks and Mesentery ...	Tuberculosis.
7 Sets Pigs Intestines	Uncleaned; commencing putrefaction.
1 Sheep Carcase and Offals ...	Caseous Lymphadenitis.
2 Sheep and Offals	Emaciation and dropsy.
1 Sheep and Offals	Septic Pleurisy and generalised dropsy.
1 Sheep and Offals	Severe bruising and dropsy.
1 Sheep and Offals	Unwholesome carcase; animal dead on arrival.
9 Part Carcases Mutton	Localised dropsy, abscesses, broken legs, etc.
1 Sheeps Heart	Pericarditis.
12 Sheeps Lungs	Parasitic Infection.
4 Sheeps Livers	Parasitic Infection.
3 Sheeps Plucks	Inflammation.
22 Sheeps Livers	Distomatosis (Liver Flukes).
7 Sheeps Livers	Echinococcus Cysts.
Others foodstuffs condemned were :	
114 x 6lb. Tins Corned Beef	Blown and damaged tins ; contents unwholesome.
15 x 6lb. Tins Corned Mutton ...	Blown and damaged tins ; contents unwholesome.
2 x 1½lb. Tins Vienna Sausages	Blown and damaged tins ; contents unwholesome.
18lbs. Californian Raisins	Wet and mouldy.
17 x ¼lb. Packets of Tea	Contaminated with paraffin.

FOOD PREPARING PREMISES.

There have been no new premises opened during the year and the condition of the existing shops has been found fairly satisfactory.

ICE CREAM.

Certificates of Registration to sell ice cream were granted to six retailers, two of whom were also registered as manufacturers of ice cream.

Ten samples of ice cream on sale in the district were taken during the year and nine were found to contain B. Coli organisms. One of the manufacturers concerned has premises in an adjoining district and the authority concerned have co-operated with a view to improving the quality of the product. Appropriate action was taken with regard to the samples manufactured within the district.

FACTORIES.

It has not been found possible to carry out inspections of the numerous factory premises in the district under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The number of notifications of infectious disease was much lower than in the previous year, largely due to the absence of measles from the district.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

From the 1st January to 31st December, 1946, 209 children under 5 years of age and 39 children between 5 and 14 years of age were immunised against Diphtheria.

A further 140 children were given a " booster " or secondary injection.

NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Excluding cases of Tuberculosis, 57 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year. The numbers are shown in the following table :—

Disease	Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	25
Whooping Cough	13
Measles	8
Pneumonia	6
Erysipelas	2
Diphtheria	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
Total	57

SCABIES.

The joint scheme commenced in 1943 has continued to operate.

29 women and children and 23 men and youths from the Spalding Rural District attended for treatment during the year. A total of 160 treatments were given at the two centres in use.

Analysis of Cases of Infectious Diseases under Age Groups.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.		
Under 1 year ...				1				1		
1 to 2 ...			3	1						
2 to 3 ...				2		1				
3 to 4 ...	1			3						
4 to 5 ...			2	1						
5 to 10 ...	7	1	2	3						
10 to 15 ...	7		1	2						
15 to 20 ...	4									
20 to 35 ...	4					3	1			
35 to 45 ...	1									
45 to 65 ...	1				1	2				
65 and over ...					1					
Totals ...	25	1	8	13	2	6	1	1		

TUBERCULOSIS.

Analysis of New Cases and Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respira- tory.		Non-Respira- tory.		Respira- tory.		Non-Respira- tory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 ...	...	...	..	1	..	..	..	...
5 to 10 ...	...	1	2	2	..	..	..	...
10 to 15 ...	...	1	1	1	..	..	..	...
15 to 20 ...	...	1	..	..	..	..	..	...
20 to 25 ...	...	3	..	..	..	..	..	...
25 to 35 ...	5	1	1	1	..	1	..	...
35 to 45 ...	2	1	1	..	1	..	...	1
45 to 55 ...	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	...
55 to 65 ...	1	..	..	...	1	..	...	...
Over 65 ...	...	..	..	..	..	..	...	...
Totals ...	9	8	5	5	2	1	1	1

				M.	F.	Total
Cases of Tuberculosis on the Register 31.12.46	Pulmonary ... ..	...	...	31	27	58
		Non-Pulmonary ...	...	15	20	35
Cases of Tuberculosis removed from the Register during 1946 as cured	Pulmonary ... ..	...	...	2	—	2
		Non-Pulmonary ...	...	2	1	3
Cases removed from the Register during 1946 due to the diagnosis not being confirmed	Pulmonary ... ..	...	...	—	—	—
		Non-Pulmonary ...	...	—	—	—
Cases of Tuberculosis removed from the Register due to removal from the district	Pulmonary ... ..	...	...	—	1	1
		Non-Pulmonary ...	...	—	—	—

